(vi) The benefit of Section 80C of the Income Tax Act, 1961 has been extended to the investments made under 5-Year Post Office Time Deposits Account and Senior Citizens Savings Scheme, with effect from 01.04.2007.

(vii) Measures are also taken to promote and popularize these schemes through print and electronic media as well as holding seminars and meetings, providing training to the various agencies involved in mobilizing collection in Small Savings Schemes etc.

(viii) A website of the National Savings Institute under Government of India, Ministry of Finance has also been launched to facilitate interface with the public through wider dissemination of information on small savings and on-line registration and settlement of investor's grievances. The website address is nsiindia.gov.in.

Bifurcation of BSNL

1549. SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is proposing to bifurcate BSNL to form another company;

(b) if so, the proposals thereof;

(c) the reasons therefor;

(d) in what manner it will affect the executive and non-executive employees; and

(e) whether the recognized union/s have been consulted in this matter and if so, what is their opinion?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT): (a) Sir, there is no proposal to bifurcate BSNL as on date.

(b) to (e) Do not arise in view of (a) above.

SIM on fake identity

1550. SHRI A. ELAVARASAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether a research by Department of Telecommunications (DoT) has revealed that about one in six SIMs is procured on the basis of fake IDs;

(b) whether DoT has slapped Rs. 58 crores in penalties on various operators who issued SIMs on fake identity;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether it is a fact that verification of 35 lakh customer application forms in the last two years revealed as accuracy rate for top six telecom operators between 60 per cent and 89 per cent;